

## AN OSTENSIBLE PRECOGNITION OF THE ARAB SURPRISE ATTACK ON THE DAY OF ATONEMENT, 1973

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### ABSTRACT

An ostensible precognition of the Arab surprise attack in the Suez Canal and the Golan Heights in October 1973 is reported.

The percipient is an English housewife who had a vision about an Arab attack two weeks before the actual event took place. Four days before the Arab assault the percipient sent a premonitory letter to the Israeli Prime Minister, Golda Meir, reporting her vision. The letter, however, arrived at the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem after the outbreak of hostilities. When Golda Meir read it she was stunned.

The precognitive aspect of the vision is discussed.

### THE OSTENSIBLE PRECOGNITION

An English housewife, Mrs. Tanya Forest (pseudonym), living at Coventry, sent a letter to Prime Minister Golda Meir on 2 October, 1973, reporting the following vision:

2 October 1973

Dear Mrs. Meir,

I am sorry to bother you with this letter, but I feel that you are the only one who can assess if it is important or not for your country.

When I was meditating, an Arab crept into my vision. I was so surprised I 'watched' him because he was acting in a stealthy, underhand way. He was in a cave and had reached this point by a small boat. He carefully crept along the wall of the cave until he came to a turning point and peeped around it. When he found it was all clear he turned and beckoned into the darkness behind him.

Then another Arab in a boat, the same boat that the first man had travelled in slowly made his way to the edge of the water.

He got out carefully and then, by means of a rope pulling arrangement, sent the boat back into the water. The rope was marked so that the boat would stop in a precise spot.

Then I received the knowledge that the boat contained an atomic bomb! (I don't even know if it is possible for a small boat to contain such a device but this was my certain impression.)

I could feel the pressure of rock up above this cave and 'saw' a crowned king and an old castle. To me this was symbolical of a seat of power. (Where the King is that is where the power is.)

The two Arabs cautiously made their way out of the cave by going upwards on the landward side.

My vision cleared for a time. Then I was looking down on a gently sloping hill, covered with olive trees I think. It wasn't a green grassy hill such as we have in England. The ground was light coloured and criss crossed with single tracked footpaths, just like an olive orchard would be, I think.

As I watched it blew up! The whole hill just exploded!! I 'knew' that this was

where the atomic device had gone off. But I wasn't conscious of any buildings on this hill as I looked down on it. Just the hill.

Then I 'saw' what I can only take to be map references (because I have never been to your country—never further east than Switzerland in fact) and so would not know where this hill was.

I was up on a parapet high up in the air. I seemed to be with Israeli soldiers patrolling this parapet. To the east of this position was a blue inland water, or huge lake down below.

Then I seemed to be shown the area from the western side. This time I felt I was on the Mediterranean Sea as I could see the waves washing up against sheer sandstone cliffs. At one point a small cleft in the cliffs had been worn away by the action of sea and other forces of erosion. The entrance was arched—almost like the archway to a cathedral.

I 'knew' this was where the Arabs had entered in their small boat.

When I was up on the parapet with the patrolling soldiers I heard 'the Heights of Golan'.

You will know, or be able to find out, if such an area exists. If it does I feel you should guard it well.

I have simply been used as a 'link' to get this information through from a higher level of vibration. I have told you everything I received. I hope it will be of some use to you.

From an ordinary English housewife,

Mrs. Tanya Forest

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Mrs. Tanya Forest had her vision on 21 September, 1973, while she was meditating.<sup>2</sup> She put it down immediately in her notebook but had no idea what to do with this knowledge at the time. After discussing the matter with some friends, however, she decided to bring it to the attention of Golda Meir. Golda Meir received the letter, postmarked 2nd October, 1973, approximately two weeks later, while the war was already in progress. The Prime Minister was stunned. She asked her secretary: 'Had you received the letter on October Second what would you have done?' Her secretary responded: 'I would have thrown it away. But I would not put you on the spot and won't ask you what would you have done'.<sup>3</sup> Golda Meir's secretary acknowledged receiving Mrs. Forest's letter on 25 October.

#### THE ARAB ATTACK ON 6 OCTOBER, 1973

At 2.00 p.m. on the Day of Atonement, Saturday, 6 October, 1973, the armed forces of Egypt and Syria launched a coordinated surprise attack against Israel.

The Egyptian assault began as their commandoes slithered down the sandy banks of the Suez Canal and crossed the water in dinghies. They deployed on the east bank of the canal as a bridgehead of the Egyptian army. Simultaneously Syrian forces broke through Israeli lines in the Golan Heights and for a while threatened Israel's northern front.

The suddenness and magnitude of the attack presented Israel with one of the greatest threats ever to her existence.

## DISCUSSION

The question the parapsychologist is asked here to consider is whether Mrs. Forest's vision was a precognition of the Arab attack on Israel on the Day of Atonement 1973. G. W. Lambert constructed a set of criteria for an ideally perfect premonition which are being utilized here with minor changes.<sup>4</sup> Lambert's first condition is that the precognition must be reported to a credible witness before the occurrence of the event to which it appears to relate.

There is no doubt in this case that the letter was posted to Prime Minister Golda Meir on the 2nd October, 1973, four days before the Arab attack.

The second criterion states that the time interval between the precognition and the event has to be short.

Fifteen days elapsed between the precognitive vision (29.9.73) and the Arab assault (6.10.73). In a relatively complex event such as the one before us, a period of two weeks appears to meet this criterion.

The third requirement says that the event should be one which, in the circumstances of the percipient, seemed extremely improbable at the time of the precognition. Mrs. Forest had little knowledge about Israel and its neighbours. She had never been to the area nor had she personal ties with persons living there. It was the first time she had ever written a letter to Golda Meir. There was no reason, whatsoever, for her to get personally involved with the fate of the State of Israel. As far as the Israeli leaders are concerned, the findings suggest the absence of a perceived probability of war in the Middle East in the period of 1973. Prof. M. Brecher summed up the situation in 1973: 'Apart from Dayan's public warning to Syria, none of the public statements by Israel's decision makers made any reference to the possibility, let alone probability, of military action in any form. More pointedly, the persistent evaluation by the Director of Military Intelligence and his Deputy was of a "lower than low" probability of war'.<sup>1</sup>

The last two criteria stipulate that details should be specified in the precognition and tally with the details of the event.

We can consider the correspondence accurate on the following points:

1. The description of the local environment.
  - (a) The area of the Golan Heights is mentioned specifically ('Heights of Golan'). In another paragraph a 'huge lake down below' is described. Could it be the Sea of Galilee as viewed from the Golan Heights?
  - (b) Although the Suez Canal was not specifically mentioned, the description of the terrain in the precognition is strikingly similar (e.g. 'Edge of the water', 'Landward side', 'Mediterranean Sea', 'Sloping hill', 'light coloured ground', etc.).
2. The perception of a sneaky Arab attack against the State of Israel.

The most conspicuous details included here are: a warning to the Prime Minister to protect the Golan Heights, the description of Arabs crossing a body of water by small boats and Israeli soldiers patrolling a high parapet.

The precognition is incorrect or vague, however, in regard to other details. The impression of the percipient that the Arabs carry an atomic bomb is of course erroneous. The bomb, however, may symbolize the magnitude of the danger to Israel. In addition the description of the cave and the boat pulling

arrangement is as far as we know unsubstantiated. It seems also that the percipient appears to be somewhat confused regarding the local geographical directions.

It can therefore be concluded that this criterion is only partially fulfilled here.

One theoretical point for consideration is whether telepathy or clairvoyance can account for this case.

At the time of Mrs. Forest's vision, decision-makers in Egypt and Syria planned a military attack on Israel. Was this knowledge then conveyed, telepathically, to the percipient or was she made aware by clairvoyance of the impending war?

The fact that the percipient had neither personal ties with the warring parties nor emotional involvement with the local situation renders this explanation quite unlikely.

In conclusion, the specific perception of an Arab attack on Israel, the proximity in time between the percipient's experience and the event and the unexpectedness of the war strongly suggest precognition as a plausible explanation. We cannot, however, rule out completely chance coincidence as an alternative hypothesis due to the inconsistency of certain details between the vision and the event itself.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am grateful to Ms. Lou Kaddar, Golda Meir's former secretary, for her willing cooperation and to the percipient for allowing me to use her letter.

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4. Lambert, G. W., 'A precognitive dream about a waterspout', *JSPR*, 1965, **43**, 5-10.

*Supporting documentation has been received.—Editor.*